



Community & Residential Services Authority

MEMBERS PRESENT

Springfield Location:

Kathy Briseno	Alan Dietrich	Jan Dunas	David Elder
Maureen Haugh-Stover	Debra Kinsey	Merlin Lehman	Gary Seelbach
Brooke Whitted			

Chicago Location: (attending by Video conference)

Bob Bloom	Beatriz Diaz	Evon Robinzine
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MEMBERS ABSENT

Edgar Hernandez	Mary O'Brien	Dee Ann Ryan	Kathy Ryg
Lanée Walls			

STAFF PRESENT

Springfield Location:

Mindy Miller	Linda Prewitt	John Schornagel
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Chicago Location: (attending by Video conference)

Robert Watts

GUESTS PRESENT

Eileen Subak, League of Women Voters

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Dietrich reviewed the mission of the Authority and called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 9, 2009 MINUTES

The Authority reviewed the minutes of the April 9, 2009 meeting.

MOTION: *Merlin Lehman moved and Kathy Briseno seconded that the minutes of April 9, 2009 Authority meeting be approved as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.*

III. STAFF REPORT

Director Schornagel reported that CRSA's recent caseload includes more transition planning cases and ICG termination cases. He commented that ICG termination cases are a new phenomenon for CRSA staff. He noted that the ICG termination cases this spring have been very labor intensive as parents appeal their ICG terminations and/or reapply for new ICGs based upon updated clinical information. Director Schornagel informed the Authority that three current cases have the real possibility of progressing into the dispute resolution process during this summer, two of which involve children with active psychosis who have recently been terminated from the ICG program.

Brooke Whitted announced to the Authority that he has several potential conflicts of interest regarding a CRSA case that is likely to qualify for the Dispute Resolution hearing over the summer. He explained that he once represented the parents in the case as their lawyer and that the parents of the child at the center of the dispute are actively considering using the Sonia Shankman's Orthogenic School of which Mr. Whitted is an active Board member. He added that the CRSA Executive Committee advised him that he would not be a voting member in any Dispute Resolution deliberations involving this child and family.

Director Schornagel commented that many individuals and agencies have been reacting to the recent FY 10 budgeting process in Springfield and bracing themselves for the possible cuts that are being discussed under the Governor's "Doomsday budget" scenario. Parents are preparing for human service cuts, state agencies are revising their budgets for FY 10 and proposing massive personnel and service cuts to address the half-year budget offered by the Legislature. He commented that local agencies are also actively preparing to lay off staff and close their doors in anticipation of program cutbacks or elimination. Bob Bloom commented on the proposals to cut back on Medicaid funded services and wondered if legislators understood the difference between Medicaid supported services and discretionary services. He added that many of the human service and personnel cuts being actively considered would see many provider agencies, large and small, close their doors.

IV. AGENCY REPORTS

None

V. OLD BUSINESS

None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Selection Of Officers

The Nominating Committee offered the following slate of officers for FY 10: Alan Dietrich as Chairperson, Gary Seelbach as Vice Chairperson and David Elder as Secretary. There were no nominations from the floor.

MOTION: *Brooke Whitted moved and Kathy Briseno seconded the re-appointment of Alan Dietrich as Chairperson, Gary Seelbach as Vice Chairperson and David Elder as Secretary. The motion carried unanimously.*

Chairperson Dietrich thanked the Nominating Committee for their work.

B. Executive Committee Caucuses

Caucuses were held to determine appointments to the Executive Committee for FY 10. The following members were appointed to represent their constituencies on the CRSA Executive Committee.

Legislative Appointees: Kathy Briseno was appointed as primary representative to the Executive Committee and Evon Robenzine was appointed as Alternate.

Gubernatorial Appointees: Brooke Whitted was appointed as primary representative to the Executive Committee and Merlin Lehman was appointed as Alternate.

Agency Appointees: Edgar Hernandez and Maureen Haugh-Stover were appointed as primary representatives to the Executive Committee and Beatriz Diaz was appointed as Alternate.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

Alan Dietrich reported that the Executive Committee has tentatively prepared to convene on July 9th to discuss CRSA's FY 2010 budget, should it become necessary to propose a new FY 10 spending plan. He added that the Executive Committee also reviewed procedures for establishing Liaison relationships with other agencies and groups.

B. Policy Committee

David Elder reported that the Policy Committee met recently and discussed several pending policy issues and concerns and is scheduled to meet again on July 9th. Mr. Elder shared his concern that the Staff Evaluation Committee and the full Authority recently violated established CRSA policy adoption procedures; specifically that the Authority improperly adopted a policy amendment to the Executive Director Position Description in December 2008 which had been recommended by the Staff Evaluation Committee. He asserts that the Authority adopted the amendment outside of the “two-reading” policy adoption format. He requested that the proposed amendment to the Executive Director Position Description be processed a by the Policy Committee as a recommendation by the Staff Evaluation Committee and that any subsequent policy amendment be put before the Authority again prior to adoption. He added that the Executive Committee was consulted and concurred with this request.

MOTION: *David Elder moved and Debra Kinsey seconded that the proposed amendment to the Executive Director Position Description be placed on First Reading status and passed on to the Policy Committee as a recommendation for the Staff Evaluation Committee. The motion carried unanimously.*

C. Multiple Agency Resource Pool (MARP) Committee

David Elder, Chair of the MARP Committee reported that he has discussed reappointment of the CRSA Multiple Agency Resource Pool (MARP) Committee with the Executive Committee. Mr. Elder commented that funds from the MARP have not been accessed in more than three years and the Committee has been reduced to three members through attrition. He added that he is seeking volunteers to serve on the MARP Committee. Debra Kinsey concurred with a recommendation that a MARP history and orientation packet be assembled and sent out to board members as a prelude to potentially volunteering to serve on that Committee. Kathy Briseno, Gary Seelbach and Brooke Whitted all volunteered to serve as members of the MARP Committee.

XIII. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Eileen Subak alerted the Authority to Senate Bill 0231 which has passed in both houses and is awaiting the Governor's signature. This bill preserves Medicaid eligibility of individuals who are incarcerated. Ms. Subak also inquired if the Authority would investigate barriers to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice using Title IV-E funds to support community re-entry and to help overcome re-entry barriers. She commented that other states are able to use Title IV-E funds for juvenile justice populations and Illinois should too. Director Schornagel agreed to look into this. Ms. Subak expressed deepening concerns that children with mental illness in Illinois are increasingly finding their way into juvenile justice facilities, where they, essentially institutionalized, to get access to mental health services. Director Schornagel commented that this is a national trend that applies to both children and adults. He added that as community-based supports and services for children with emotion disturbance and mental illness contract in response to a receding economy and tightening service environment, more Illinois children will "default" to the juvenile justice system. The authority thanked Ms. Subak for her comments and her ongoing interest in the work of the Authority.

X. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *Brooke Whitted moved and Kathy Briseno seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 10:45 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.*